

Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

**Amend** claims and 31 by replacement as follows:

*A* 2. (amended) A composition according to claim 1 in which the hydrophobic polymer contained in the core absorbs a hydrophobic liquid.

*A2* 31. (amended) A process according to claim 10 in which the hydrophobic polymer core absorbs a hydrophobic liquid.